

KAREN
N.

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION V

DATE: 12/30/88

SUBJECT: Sherwin-Williams/PMC

005456439/981091291

RCRA

FROM: Robert A. Fuhrer

Karen Nacheway
TO:

031649500Y -Cook

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



355889

Enclosed is the summary on the recent site visit to Sherwin-Williams/PMC that we discussed recently on the telephone.

In the process of writing the RFA we came across the discussion in the Facility Management Plan of IEPA data on sample of wells dated 6/83 and 6/84. It mentioned a range of phenols from 0 to 1500 ppb. In addition, there is still a lack of soil or well boring data that if you have, would help in the RFA. If this material is in your files and copies forwarded here, it would be greatly appreciated. You can reach me at (312) 353-4998 if there are any questions, thank you.

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side of the site. This well is along the landfill on the South-East side of the site.

- We asked about the Alkali Blue Storage Drop Box location and they located it at the sampling point S07, but in the past year it was moved about 50 yards South-East, away from the fence line between PMC & SW.
- We asked about the IPN "incinerator" and they said that it was PMC's. PMC said that it has all of its permits as a air pollution control device. They added that is not running at present but as "material" comes available they will be running for three(3) months.
- We asked about the mound in the South-West portion of the site and SW said that was just building debris (landfilled).
- We asked about the documentation of storage for less than 90 days for all storage (ie. dates on drums, manifests) to prove that they were not a regulated facility. No response was given. No drums were seen on the walk through of the site.
- SW showed us photographs of the site from 1965 and 1975 of the landfill before it capped.

On the walk through we first went to the background sampling sites S01, & S02. This area was once used as a parking lot and is now used for trailer parking.

We then walked to sampling points S07 & S08 (on PMC's property). This is where there is high lead and cyanide levels. This area used to be where the Alkali Blue drop box was located. It was moved further on to PMC's property. There were blue stains on the ground.

Next we observed the area by sampling point S04, by the "old" cresol pitch storage area. There is a new, \$1.2 million "afterburner" on this site. It may burn paracresol and toluene waste when it is fully on line. This area has not been used to store cresol pitch since 1985, so the cresol pitch is now stored in the "power house solvent tanks". *permit*

We then looked at the wastewater treatment ponds around sampling point S09. This point had the highest levels of mercury, cyanide, arsenic, napthalene, and a variety of other organics. S11, S12, & S21 all showed high levels of organics. The connected ponds each had a 24 hour retention time. In this location a sump pump was installed and connected to a manhole. This has been in place since (June 1988) PMC cutoff the waste water connection. SW said that they used to drain these impoundments every year, but when they changed their process to caustic neutralization only (not settling and neutralization), they found that they drain these ponds every couple of months.

The east ditch of the two storm-water overflow ditches at sampling locations